

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO

ORDINANCE NO. 25-O-0025

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF
THE CITY OF WEST CHICAGO
TO ALLOW THE KEEPING OF CHICKENS
ON SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES**

**ADOPTED BY THE
CITY COUNCIL
OF THE
CITY OF WEST CHICAGO
July 21, 2025**

Published in pamphlet form by the authority of the City Council of the City of West Chicago, DuPage County, Illinois, on the 22nd day of July, 2025.

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AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WEST CHICAGO TO ALLOW THE KEEPING OF CHICKENS ON SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES

WHEREAS, the City of West Chicago periodically reviews the text of the Zoning Code for consistency with current trends in development and uses; and

WHEREAS, the keeping of chickens on residential properties for personal use is prohibited by the West Chicago Zoning Code; and

WHEREAS, the keeping of chickens on residential properties for personal use is beneficial for residents and should be permitted within the City of West Chicago; and

WHEREAS, the keeping of chickens on residential properties for personal use should be regulated to prevent adverse impacts on neighboring properties; and

WHEREAS, the City of West Chicago has proposed a zoning text amendment to allow the keeping of chickens on residential properties for personal use on all properties used as single-family residential; and

WHEREAS, Notice of Public Hearing on said zoning text amendment was published in the Daily Herald on May 19, 2025, as required by the ordinances of the City of West Chicago and the statutes of the State of Illinois; and

WHEREAS, a Public Hearing was conducted by the Plan Commission/Zoning Board of Appeals of the City of West Chicago commencing on June 3, 2025, pursuant to said Notice, and concluded on July 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS, at the Public Hearing all interested parties had an opportunity to be heard; and

WHEREAS, the corporate authorities of the City of West Chicago have received the recommendation of the Plan Commission/Zoning Board of Appeals which contains specific findings of fact, pursuant to Recommendation No. 25-RC-0012, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" which is, by this reference, made a part hereof.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the City Council of the City of West Chicago, DuPage County, Illinois, in regular session assembled, as follows:

Section 1. That Article VI of Appendix A, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of West Chicago be amended to add the following Section 6.30:

"Section 6.30 Chickens on Residential Property

The keeping of chickens shall be permitted on all properties used as a single-family residential dwelling, subject to the following conditions:

1. No more than 6 hens are permitted to be kept on a single zoning lot at any given time.
2. Roosters are prohibited.

3. A chicken coop shall be required with a minimum setback of 5 feet from all property lines and a minimum size of 6 square feet per chicken. Chicken coops shall only be permitted in the rear yard. A chicken coop shall not exceed 199 square feet in floor area.
4. A chicken coop that is permanently affixed to the ground shall require a building permit and shall be prohibited within a recorded easement.
5. A chicken coop may not be located within the principal structure or any other accessory structure on the property.
6. A covered and enclosed chicken run shall be required. The chicken run shall be located on the side of the chicken coop furthest away from the nearest property line and shall be oriented toward the interior of the property, away from the property line. If, however, the adjacent zoning lot the chicken run is nearest to does not have a residential dwelling located on it then the chicken run needs to only be setback at least five (5) feet from said lot line.
7. All feed shall be maintained in rodent-proof containers.
8. No slaughtering is permitted on the subject property.
9. No other poultry, livestock, or other farm type animals are permitted.
10. All areas where hens are kept shall be clean, sanitary, and well maintained at all times with little to no accumulation of any waste or refuse. All refuse and waste shall be disposed of in a clean and sanitary fashion. In addition, all areas where hens are kept shall not produce or cause odors that are detectable on adjacent properties.
11. No refuse, waste, feed, or any other materials used or generated from the keeping of hens shall be located closer than 5 feet from any property line.
12. Chicken coops shall be maintained in a manner that provides adequate lighting and ventilation, and protects hens from cold weather, precipitation, rodents, and predators.”

Section 2. That Section 11-85 of Division 6, of Article II, of Chapter 11, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of West Chicago be amended as follows:

“Sec. 11-85. Certain animals prohibited.

Possession of a lion, tiger, leopard, ocelot, jaguar, cheetah, margay, mountain lion, lynx, bobcat, jaguarundi, any hybrid thereof, or any other similar feline animal, bear hyena, wolf coyote, wolf-dog or coyote-dog hybrid, any member of the crocodylian family, poisonous reptile, or any other life threatening reptile or any other animal which is ferae naturae in the eyes of the law shall be prohibited except by any person or institution possessing state and/or federal permits enabling them to keep such animals.

Possession of any roosters, ~~chickens~~ or any similar fowl, except hens that are permitted under Section 6.30 of Appendix A of the Code of Ordinances of the City of West Chicago, or hybrid thereof is also prohibited.

Possession of any livestock including but not limited to cattle, calves, horses, sheep, swine, goats, or other farm-type animals shall be prohibited except that horses may be kept on a property zoned ER-1, in accordance with section 9.1 of Appendix A of this Code of Ordinances, and on a property zoned ER-2, in accordance with section 9.1-1 of Appendix A (the Zoning Code) of this Code of Ordinances.”

EXHIBIT “A”

RECOMMENDATION NO. 2025-RC-0012

TO: The Honorable Mayor and City Council

SUBJECT: PC 25-12
A Text Amendment to Article VI of Appendix A of the Code of Ordinances of the City of West Chicago to Allow the Keeping of Chickens on Single-Family Residential Properties

DATE: July 1, 2025

PUBLIC HEARING

The Plan Commission/Zoning Board of Appeals conducted a public hearing for PC 25-12 commencing on Tuesday, June 3, 2025 and concluding on July 1, 2025, in the Council Chambers of West Chicago City Hall – 475 Main Street, West Chicago, Illinois.

RECOMMENDATION

After a review of the proposed Zoning Text Amendment as presented, the Plan Commission/Zoning Board of Appeals finds that the proposed Amendment does not pose a threat to the health, safety and welfare of the community. It is the Commission’s opinion that the proposed Amendment will be beneficial to the City of West Chicago.

The Amendment is in keeping with the purpose of the Zoning Code and the Comprehensive Plan. The Plan Commission is of the opinion that the proposed amendments will protect, promote, and improve the public health, safety, morals, convenience, order, appearance, prosperity and the general welfare of the citizens of West Chicago community. The Plan Commission further recommends that the regulations for the keeping of chickens on single-family residential properties be reviewed by the Plan Commission one year following their approval.

ROLL CALL VOTE

Yeas (4)

Laimins
Banasiak
Slattery
Terrazas

Nays (0)

Abstain (0)

Absent (3)

Billingsley
Henkin
Kasprak

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Laimins
Chairperson

Section 3. That the regulations contained in this ordinance shall be reviewed by the West Chicago Plan Commission/Zoning Board of Appeals on August 4, 2026, or at the next available regularly scheduled meeting thereafter.

Section 4. That all ordinances and resolutions, or parts thereof, in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are, to the extent of such conflict, expressly repealed.

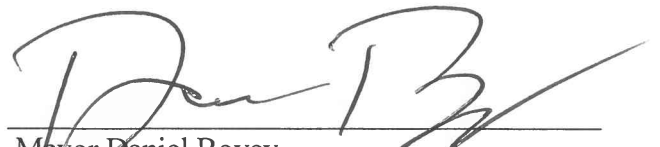
Section 5. That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect after its passage, approval and publication in pamphlet form as provided by law.

PASSED this 21st day of July, 2025.

Alderman J. Alcántar-García	<u>Aye</u>	Alderman D. Beebe	<u>Aye</u>
Alderman S. Santiago	<u>Aye</u>	Alderman J. Sheahan	<u>Aye</u>
Alderman D. Carreto-Muñoz	<u>Aye</u>	Alderman A. Hallett	<u>Absent</u>
Alderman S. Dimas	<u>Aye</u>	Alderman M. Birch Ferguson	<u>Aye</u>
Alderman C. Swiatek	<u>Absent</u>	Alderman J. Smith, Jr.	<u>Aye</u>
Alderman C. Aviña Soto	<u>Aye</u>	Alderman R. Stout	<u>Aye</u>
Alderman M. Myers	<u>Aye</u>	Alderman J. Morano	<u>Aye</u>

APPROVED as to form: _____
City Attorney

APPROVED this 21st day of July, 2025.



Mayor Daniel Bovey

ATTEST:

Valeria Perez
Executive Office Manager Valeria Perez

PUBLISHED: 7-22-2025

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
COUNTY OF DU PAGE)

CERTIFICATE

I, Valeria Perez, Certify that I am the Executive Office Manager of the City of West Chicago, DuPage County, Illinois.

I further certify that on July 21, 2025 the Corporate Authorities of such municipality passed and approved Ordinance No. 25-O-0025 entitled

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Which provided by its terms that it should be published in pamphlet form. The pamphlet form of Ordinance No. 25-O-0025 including the ordinance and a cover sheet hereof was prepared, and a copy of such ordinance posted in the municipal building, commencing on July 22, 2025 continuing for at least ten days thereafter. Copies of such ordinance were also available for public inspection upon request in the Office of the City Administrator.

Dated at West Chicago, Illinois, this 21st of July, 2025.

SEAL

Valeria Perez

Valeria Perez, Executive Office Manager